

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 A-01

OPR-01 OC-01 CCO-00 CPR-01 SY-02 SAM-01 CU-02 PRS-01

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O R 211612Z APR 76

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2331

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 810

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (ROCKEFELLER, NELSON A.)

SUBJECT: VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO BERLIN

REF: STATE 088818, USBERLIN 790

1. SUMMARY: IN REVIEWING VICE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSED VISIT TO GERMANY, IT SEEMS TO US THAT HE MIGHT FIND IT BETTER TO FLY INTO BERLIN ON MAY 13 DIRECT FROM USA, RATHER THAN TO ARRIVE IN FRANKFURT ON THAT DATE ONLY FOR BRIEF OVERNIGHT STAY. IF HE SHOULD CHOOSE TO COME TO BERLIN LATE IN EVENING OF MAY 13, AND WE CAN FIND ACCOMMODATIONS, WE WOULD ASSUME THAT EFFECTIVE PROGRAM WOULD BEGIN ON MAY 14, MORE OR LESS ALONG LINES OF SCHEDULE IN USBERLIN 790. END SUMMARY.

2. WHILE THE MISSION IS NOT PERFECTLY AWARE OF ALL THE BACKGROUND CONCERNING THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO FRANKFURT, OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT HE PLANS TO ARRIVE LATE IN THE EVENING OF MAY 13, ONLY TO SPEND CONFIDENTIAL

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THE NIGHT THERE PRIOR TO TAKING OFF FOR BERLIN EARLY ON MAY 14. IF THIS IS THE CASE, WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO FLYING DIRECTLY INTO BERLIN FROM THE USA. THIS WOULD PERMIT MORE REST, AND

A SLIGHTLY MORE RELAXED BERLIN SCHEDULE ON MAY 14. THE ONLY PROBLEM WHICH MIGHT PRECLUDE THIS WOULD BE ACCOMMODATIONS. THE SENAT HAS NO REPEAT NO ADEQUATE QUEST HOUSE FACILITIES SUCH AS THOSE AVAILABLE IN THE FRG, AND THE PRACTICALITY OF THE MOVE WILL DEPEND ON AVAILABILITY OF HOTEL ROOM SPACE. IDEALLY WE WOULD WISH TO ACCOMMODATE THE VICE PRESIDENT AND HIS PARTY ON ONE FLOOR OF THE BERLIN HILTON HOTEL.

3. SHOULD SUCH A DIRECT ARRIVAL IN BERLIN BE POSSIBLE, WE WOULD ASSUME THAT IT WOULD BE LATE IN THE EVENING, SO THAT NO ACTIVITIES WOULD BE PLANNED UNTIL THE MORNING OF MAY 14. A CLOSER LOOK AT A MAY 13-14 SCHEDULE, WITH SOME ALTERNATIVE POSSIBILITIES, FOLLOWS: (WE ASSUME A TEGEL ARRIVAL).

4. A LATE EVENING ALLIED ARRIVAL CEREMONY AT THE FRENCH MILITARY PORTION OF TEGEL AIRPORT. THIS WOULD TAKE LESS THAN TEN MINUTES, AND VP WOULD BE MET BY US, FRENCH AND UK OFFICIALS, PROBABLY PLUS GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ. THE VICE PRESIDENT WOULD MAKE A BRIEF ARRIVAL STATEMENT. ALL TRAVEL WOULD BE BY MOTORCADE. (THERE IS ONLY ONE VIP FURNISHED HELICOPTER IN BERLIN.)

5. MAY 14

0940 - LEAVE HOTEL FOR U.S. MISSION.

1000 - ARRIVE AT U.S. MISSION HEADQUARTERS. THIS WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY HONOR CEREMONY, 10 MINUTES, PLUS SPEECH TO AMERICANS, 10 MINUTES, PLUS 10-20 MINUTES FOR MINGLING WITH AMERICANS IF DESIRED. COMMENT: (A) UPON REEXAMINATION, WE HAVE DECIDED TO ELIMINATE MCNAIR BARRACKS AS AN ALTERNATIVE. THE U.S. MISSION IS MORE CENTRAL, HAS BETTER PARKING POSSIBILITIES FOR ACCESS TO NON-OFFICIAL AMERICAN CITIZENS, AND OFFERS MUCH CONFIDENTIAL

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BETTER SECURITY BECAUSE IT IS A CLOSED COMPOUND. IN ADDITION, IT WOULD PROVIDE COVER FOR A SOMEWHAT REDUCED CEREMONY IN CASE OF SEVERELY INCLEMENT WEATHER. MCNAIR IS AN OPEN TERRITORY. (B) WE WOULD PLAN ON INVITING A REPRESENTATIVE GROUP OF 500 TO 1,000 LOCAL AMERICANS, INCLUDING TROOPS, MISSION PERSONNEL, WIVES, STUDENTS, AND REPS OF LOCAL US BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY. A MORE LIMITED AUDIENCE COULD STILL BE ACCOMMODATED IN CASE OF RAIN. END COMMENT.

1045 - DEPART THE MISSION.

1100 - ARRIVE SCHOENEBOURG RATHAUS.

1105 - CALL ON GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ.

1120 - PROCEED TO BALCONY IN FRONT OF RATHAUS FOR GOLDEN BOOK CEREMONY. SPEECHES, PLUS TRANSLATIONS, BY VICE PRESIDENT AND GOVERNING MAYOR. COMMENT:.. THIS PROPOSAL WOULD ALLOW THE VICE PRESIDENT TO ADDRESS A FAIR SIZE CROWD OF BERLINERS ASSEMBLED IN FRONT OF THE CITY HALL. IF THE VICE PRESIDENT DESIRES A MORE LIMITED AUDIENCE, THE CEREMONY WOULD BE HELD INSIDE THE RATHAUS. END COMMENT.

1210 - DEPART RATHAUS.

1230 - ARRIVE AT ECHNATON AND NOFRETETE EXHIBIT, AT EGYPTIAN MUSEUM (IN CLOSE VICINITY OF CHARLOTTENBURG PALACE).

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1300 - ARRIVE AT CHARLOTTENBURG PALACE FOR LUNCH. PRESUMABLY THIS WOULD BE PRECEDED BY DRINKS IN THE ROTUNDA, AND LUNCH FOR A MXIMUM OF 68 IN THE DAK GALLERY (PLUS LUNCH SERVED TO OVERFLOW MEMBERS OF PARTY IN ADJOINING ROOMS). THE VICE PRESIDENT WOULD RESPOND WITH A TOAST.

1430 - DEPART FOR SIGHTSEEING. WE COULD PLAN FOR THE SIGHTSEEING TO LAST UNTIL 1600, WITH TWO MAIN PORTIONS WHICH COULD BE TELESCOPED OR ELIMINATED:

(Q) PART ONE. A MOTORCADE TOUR OF SOME OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING PLACES: THE HANSA QUARTER (A POST-

WORLD WAR II REBUILT AREA DESIGNED BY LEADING ARCHITECTS), BRANDENBURG GATE (WHERE THE EAST GERMANS ARE CURRENTLY BUILDING A NEW PORTION OF THE WALL), REICHSTAG BUILDING, CONGRESS HALL, MEMORIAL CHURCH (GEDAECHTNIS KRCHE), TIEGRARTEN AND VICTORY TOWER. TWO OR THREE OF THESE LOCALES WOULD BE SUITABLE FOR DISMOUNTING FOR BRIEF PERIODS. (D) VISIT TO NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART, OF 30-40 MINUTES DURATION.

1600 - RETURN TO HOTEL.
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1630 - DEPART FOR TEGEL.

1700 - DEPARTING STATEMENT, AND WHEELS UP.

COMMENT: PERIOD FROM 1430 TO 1700 COULD BE FLEXIBLY FORESHORTENED BY CUTTING ITEINERARY, OR BY LEAVING DOWNTOWN AREA DIRECT FOR AIRPORT WITHOUT RETURNING TO HOTEL.
END COMMENT.

6. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS TO WHICH WE WILL NEED ANSWERS SOONEST:

(A) DECISION ON ATTEMPTING TO ARRIVE ON EVENING OF MAY 13. MAY 15 IS DAY OF SEPARATE LOCAL SPD AND CDU PARTY CONVENTIONS, AND ANYWAY WE ARE DEEP INTO TOURIST SEASON FOR BERLIN. HOTEL SPACE WILL BE SHORT. WE WILL NEED IMMEDIATELY TO MAKE INQUIRIES RE HOTEL ROOMS, IF NECESSARY ON PROVISIONAL BASIS
(B) HOW MANY WILL BE IN PARTY? WE HAVE NOTED NAMES OF INVITEES OF PAULSKIRCHE HOST COMMITTEE (FRANKFURT 2055), WHICH MAY NUMBER FROM 18 TO 20 PERSONS. GIVEN THEIR COMPLETELY DIFFERENT STATUS AS PRIVATE GUESTS OF THE COMMITTEE, AND THE DIFFERENT NATURE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT, WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THESE GUESTS PLAN TO ARRIVE SEPARATELY AT FRANKFURT, OR THAT IF THEY ARRIVE HERE, THEY NOT BE INCLUDED IN OFFICIAL PARTY (WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF MCCLOY AND MURPHY.) WE ASSUME THAT THERE WILL BE OTHER OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT MEMBERS OF THE VICE PRESEIDENT'S PARTY WHO WILL ACCOMPANY HIM TO BERLIN.
(C) WHEN WILL SECURITY BE LIFTED ON BERLIN TRIP? WE HOPE THIS CAN HAPPEN NOW, AS DANGERS OF A LEAK ALREADY EXIST, AND WE CANNOT BEGIN DETAILED PREPARATIONS WITH CURRENT BLACKOUT.

(D) WE WOULD ALSO WANT TO KNOW ARRIVAL TIME AND COMPOSITION OF ADVANCE TEAM.

(E) DOES VICE PRESIDENT WISH TO HOLD NEWS CONFERENCE, IN OVERAGE ALL STOPS AND SPEECHES?

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WHAT PRESS WILL BE ACCOMPANYING?

(F) WHAT INTERESTS DOES THE VICE PRESIDENT HAVE FOR
SIGHTSEEING?

7. FOR BONN: WE ASSUME NO FRG OFFICIALS WILL WANT TO
SHOW UP IN BERLIN, GIVEN CIRCUMSTANCES THAT FORMAL
WELCOMING CEREMONY IS PLANNED FOR MAY 14 ARRIVAL
(OR REARRIVAL) IN FRANKFURT. GEORGE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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